WESTERN RECORDER.

PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATRONAGE, AND FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE WESTERN EDUCATION SOCIETY, AND AUBURN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

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From Benedict's History.

THE GREEK CHURCH.

Some knowledge of the history and character of the Greek Church, seems indispensable towards entertaining correct views of the importance attached to the present struggle of the Greeks; and of understanding the nature of that influence, which is exerted in Russia, against evangelical religion.

It will be seen by the subjoined article from "Benedict's History of all Religions," that, though the religion of the Greek Church is far removed from paganism, it has not advanced the same distance from the errors of the Romish Church.

1. *Of the rise of the Greek Church.*—Multitudes of the first converts to Christianity, resided where once were the ancient republics of Greece, and spoke the Greek language, in which the New Testament was written. And after Constantine the Great, had removed the seat of empire from Rome to Constantinople, the Bishops of these two famous cities became rivals for preeminence and power. The bishop of Rome, took the name of Pope, from the Greek word παππας, which signifies father. The Bishop of Constantinople, assumed the Old Testament title, of Patriarch, and by this appellation he is yet distingnished.

2. *The Patriarchs of this Church, and the Chief Patriarch of Constantinople.*—In the Greek church, properly so called, are four Patriarchs, viz. those of Constantinople, Alexandria, Antioch, and Jerusalem. But the supreme head of this church is the Patriarch of Constantinople, whom they style the 13th Apostle; and whose usual title, when he subscribes any letter or missive, is, "by the mercy of God, Archbishop of Constantinople, the New Rome and Oecumenical Patriarch." The right of electing him is vested in the twelve Bishops who reside nearest that famous chapel; but the right of confirming the election, and of enabling the new chosen Patriarch to exercise spiritual functions, belongs only to the Turkish Emperor.

The office is very uncertain, for it is often obtained not by merit, but by bribery and corruption; and when a higher bidder appears, the possessor is often displaced. It is, notwithstanding, both honourable and lucrative, and of high trust and influence; for besides the power of nominating the other three patriarchs, of Alexandria, Antioch and Jerusalem, and all Episcopal dignitaries, the Patriarch of Constantinople enjoys a most extensive jurisdiction and dominion, comprehending the churches of a considerable part of Greece, the Grecian Isles, Wallachia, Moldavia, and several of the European and Asiatic provinces, that are subject to Turkey. He not only calls councils by his own authority to decide controversies and direct the affairs of the church; but with the permission of the emperor, he administers justice, and takes cognizance of civil causes among the members of his own communion. For the administration of ecclesiastical affairs, a synod convened monthly, is composed of the heads of the church resident in Constantinople.

In this assembly he presides with the patriarchs of Antioch and Jerusalem and twelve archbishops. Seniority ought to take the lead in these councils, but it is often overborne by superior talents, or habits of intrigue; and a majority is commanded by that prelate, whose influence promises most to those who support him.

The right of constituting the Constantinopolitan patriarch, is claimed by the archbishop of Heraclea: and this honour is granted to his see, from its having been the metropolis of the Thracian diocess, before Constantinople became the chief seat of the empire. This patriarch was immensely powerful before the Grecian states were overrun and conquered by the Turks. And notwithstanding their present oppressed condition, yet this is so lucrative and enviable an office, that "in the space of two years that I stayed at Constantinople," says Mr. Grelot, "two different patriarchs gave for their patriarchship, the one 50,000, the other, 60,000 crowns, as a present to the Grand Seignior."

The power of the chief patriarch is maintained on the one hand, by the authority of the Turkish monarch, and on the other, by his right of excommunicating the disobedient members of the Greek church. His influence with the Porte, is very extensive, as far as his own nation is concerned. His memorials are never denied; and he can, in fact, command the death, the exile, imprisonment for life, deposition from office, or pecuniary fine of any Greek whom he may be inclined to punish with rigour, or who has treated his authority with contempt. And his right of excommunication gives him a singular degree of influence and authority, as nothing has a more terrifying aspect to that people, than a sentence of excommunication, which they reckon among the greatest and most tremendous evils.

The Patriarch of Alexandria, resides generally at Cairo, and exercises his spiritual authority in Egypt, Nubia, Lybia, and part of Arabia.

Damascus is the principal residence of the Patriarch of Antioch, whose jurisdiction extends to Mesopotamia, Syria, Cilicia and other provinces.

The Patriarch of Jerusalem comprehends within the bounds of his pontificate. Palestine, part of Arabia, the country beyond Jorden, Cana in Galilee, and Mount Zion. The episcopal dominions of these three patriarchs, are extremely poor and inconsiderable. And indeed the whole of the dignitaries of this church, except the Patriarch of Constantinople; the archbishops the metropolitans, the bishops and archimandrites, with all the lower orders of ecclesiastics, have the shadow rather than the substance of church preferment.

The most opulent bishop, has little more than 300 pounds sterling, a year.

3. *Distinguishing doctrines, and peculiar ceremonies of the Greek Church.*—The Greek church agrees in most things, with either the church of Rome, or the Protestant churches; wherein it differs from the one, it for the most part agrees with the other. It agrees with the Protestants in disowning the supremacy and infallibility of the Pope, and the exclusive claim of the church of Rome, as the true catholic church; in rejecting the doctrine of purgatory; in the use of graven images; in the celibacy of the secular clergy; and in administering the sacraments in both kinds; but it differs from them in the number of the sacraments, in using pictures; in admitting the invocation of saints; in transubstantiation, and of course the adoration of the host; and though it rejects the Romish purgatory, it has something that may be said to resemble it; and admits masses and services for the dead.

But as this church has no public or established articles of faith, we can only collect what are its doctrines, from the different offices in its liturgies, and from the catechisms which it authorizes to be taught.

The holy scriptures, and the decrees of the first seven great councils, viz. those of Nice, Constantinople, Ephesus, Chalcedon, the 2d of Constantinople, the 3d of do. and the 2d of Nice, are acknowledged by the Greeks as the rule of their faith, and the doctrine of the Trinity, together with the articles of the Nicene and Athanacian creeds, are received by them in common with most other Christians. In one particular indeed, they differ from the other churches of Europe, whether Romish or Reformed, viz. in believing that the Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father, only, and not from the Father and the Son.

The Greek Church has seven sacraments or as they are called mysteries, viz. baptism, the Chrism, the Eucharist, Confession, Ordination, Marriage, and the Euchelaion, or the mystery of the holy oil, with prayer. Baptism and the Eucharist are deemed the chief, "With respect to Baptism," says Mr. Adams, "I am not aware that they hold any peculiar opinions, as to its nature; with the Church of Rome, they maintain its necessity to salvation, in that it washes away original sin; they use immersion, which is no doubt the most ancient manner, and the child though not two months old, must be solemnly initiated into the church as a catechumen, through the medium of its sponsors, when exorcism is used.

CIRCULAR OF ALBANY SYNOD.

At the annual meeting of the Synod of Albany, held in the city of Troy, on the first week of October A. D. 1825, a committee was appointed, at the close of the free conversation on the state of religion, who, in pursuance of the object of their appointment, submitted a report on the Sanctification of the Sabbath, which was adopted, and is as follows:—

The statements which have been made on the floor of this house oblige us to believe that the profanation of the Lord's day is practised to an extent altogether unprecedented in that portion of our country included within the bounds of this Synod. The evil is evidently in a course of rapid increase, and has already assumed an aspect of the most appalling and portentous character.

But to suppose that this Synod, and the churches under its care, and the section of country in which they are located, are alone concerned, would, in the opinion of your committee, be to overlook the mighty magnitude of the subject. There is a stream that flows with moral pestilence through the whole extent of the nation. The evil is not less alarming in other parts of our country than in this. It is the common concern of all the churches of every name, & of all the states from east to west & from north to South in this vast republic.

Your committee consider the subject as one of vital importance to all our civil and religious institutions—a great ecclesiastical and national question, the influence of which must be deeply felt in every department of society, and in every section of our great and growing country.

With these views of the magnitude and and importance of the subject before them, your committee cannot think that any efforts limited by the boundaries of this Synod or of this state, would be at all commensurate with the evils to be removed and the interests to be secured. Nor can they suppose that the grand enterprise of effecting the needed reformation could be accomplished in the short space of a few months. Time must be taken—the moral feelings of the nation must be awakened—the virtuous wisdom and talents of the nation must be enlisted—the lawless manners of the nation must be reformed.

Overlooking, therefore, all sectarian and sectional considerations, the *ultimate* means on which your committee fix their eyes, and in which alone, under God, they indulge the hope of complete success, are, 1. faithful discipline in all the churches of American Israel: and 2. efficient legislation in all the branches of our civil government; or to express these together, there must be *one, great, united, national effort.*

In order to secure this, your committee recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That a committee of correspondence be appointed by this body, whose duty it shall be to solicit the attention of other Synods of the Presbyterian church, and ecclesiastical bodies of all other religious denominations in the country, to this subject as speedy as practicable, to prepare a memorial on the subject, and forward it to the next General Assembly of our church—to take effectual measures to procure the publication and circulation of Tracts and Prize Essays in this and other states on the moral and civil advantages of the Sabbath—to write to distinguished civilians, whose sentiments are supposed to be in favour of the object, to obtain their co-operation—and in general to adopt such other measures as they may deem important for the attainment of the object.

2. That as soon as the way shall be prepared, this committee of correspondence take measures to have respectful and earnest petitions made to all our state legislatures and to congress, praying them to adopt such measures as their wisdom, virtue and patriotism dictate for securing the better sanctification of this holy day.

The following persons were appointed as the committee of correspondence—

Rev. Sam'l Blatchford, D. D.
" Nathaniel S. Prime,
" David Porter, D. D.
" Sam'l P. Williams,
" John Chester, D. D.
" N. S. S. Beman.
" Elisha Yale,
" Henry R. Weed,
" Sam'l C. Aikin,
J. P. Cushman, Esq.
Annanias Platt, Esq.
Walter King, Esq.
Elias Parmale, Esq.
John Fine, Esq.

In regard to the ministers and churches in connexion with this Synod, your committee would moreover recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1. That it be again, and it is hereby, solemnly enjoined on all the Presbyteries, Church Sessions, and ministers under our care to observe the resolutions passed by this body in 1823 and 4, respecting inquiry and discipline—the purport of which was, That our Presbyteries and Church Sessions should exercise discipline over their respective members whenever guilty of violating the sanctity of the Sabbath—that an inquiry should annually be instituted in the Presbyteries in connexion with this Synod relative to the sanctification of the Lord's day and the exercise of discipline for disregard to this sacred institution—and that each minister belonging to this Synod should at the earliest opportunity practicable, present this subject in all its solemn importance to the Session of the church under his pastoral charge, and invite the co-operation of its members in all proper and prudent measures for the suppression of Sabbath breaking.

2. That every minister in connexion with this body, and having a pastoral charge, preach on the subject of the sanctification of the Sabbath, before the end of November next.

3. That it be recommended to all the churches under our care to observe the first Friday of December next as a day of solemn Fasting and Prayer, with special reference to this subject.

4. That it be recommended to all our ministers and church members, when travelling, to give the preference to such livery establishments, steam-boats, canal-boats and other public vehicles as do not violate the laws of God and of the land in relation to the Sabbath.

From the Minutes of the Session of Synod, October, A. D. 1825.

JOHN CHESTER, *Stated Clerk.*

CHURCHES AT THE WEST.

The following appears in a recent number of the Pittsburgh Recorder:

A respectable clergyman in the state of Ohio, writes as follows:

"The present state of our western republic, with regard to its religious institutions and religious character, is certainly deplorable: but we shudder to think what it must be in a few years, if something effectual be not done by the Christian public to meet its spiritual wants, and to supply its destitute regions with the ministry of the word of God. Take for example the state of Ohio. It contains a population of more than 700,000; and all the efficient ministers of all the Christian denominations in the state do not exceed 300.—Of the Presbyterian denomination, perhaps 80; of the Baptist, about the same number; of the Methodist, something more than 100; of the Episcopalian denomination, 12 or 15. In the whole about 300. There is then, (allowing one minister to every thousand souls,) a deficiency of 400 ministers of the gospel in this state, leaving a destitute population of 400,000."

The President of one of our western colleges, writes:

"As to the paralyzing suggestion, that too many are on the education list, I am surprised that any Christian, with the general means of information, can be so unacquainted with the extent of our vast moral desert, teeming with ignorance of the plan of salvation, with errors in doctrine, and with vice of frightful mien.

"In very many places throughout our western regions, no small proportion of those who pretend to be preachers of the gospel, need instruction in the rudiments of their vernacular tongue; and Paul never preached the truth with greater boldness, than some of these preach for doctrines the commandments of men—tearing with unhallowed hands, the crown from Immanuel's brow, debasing him to a mere creature like themselves, sapping the foundation of the Christian fabric, and destroying, so far as possible, the only support, comfort, hope and joy of the departed saints. We must have a learned and pious ministry, to counteract all the abominable principles pervading the western world.

"So far from encouraging too many to become labourers in the vineyard, our Education Societies should exert every faculty they possess, till where there is now *one*, there shall be at least *ten young men*, of hopeful talents and piety, ardently engaged in preparing for the most important object upon earth."

From the Pittsburgh Recorder.

WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

The location of the Western Theological Seminary of the Presbyterian church is a subject which now begins to excite considerable interest. Some spirited exertions have been made in this region to procure subscriptions for its establishment, and a commendable liberality has been manifested, in numerous instances: but subscribers have promised the sums annexed to their names on condition that the seminary shall be located in the vicinity of this city, or some other suitable place within the bounds of the Synod of Pittsburgh. It is confidently believed that a handsome lot of several acres, as a site for the contemplated Seminary, will be given in the town of Allegheny, contiguous to this city; and it cannot be doubted that this town has advantages which are attached to few in the western country. Some propositions, relative to the location of the Seminary in Allegheny town, will probably be made to the Commissioners appointed by the General Assembly, who will shortly meet at Washington, Pa.—We also understand that Mr. Zeighler, proprietor of the town of Harmony, Butler co. Pa. 25 miles north of Pittsburgh, intends to present proposals for the location of the Seminary in that town, and that to encourage the object, he will make a liberal donation in ground lots, and in cash.—Some time since proposals were published for the location of the Seminary on the Walnut Hills, a pleasant and healthy situation about two miles from Cincinnati, Ohio, where convenient lots will be given for the use of the institution; and from the papers we learn that a meeting was recently held in Cincinnati at which a committee reported, that the trustees of the Cincinnati college and the trustees of the first Presbyterian church, have agreed to convey the south half of the college lot and edifice, valued at $17,000, to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, for the use of the Seminary, should it be located in Cincinnati, and provided about $3000 could be raised to enable the trustees to pay the debts due by the college. A committee also was appointed to obtain subscriptions to the requisite amount. We have not been informed of any other propositions relative to the location of this important institution. It must be supposed that a diversity of opinions will be entertained upon this subject; but we rest satisfied that the General Assembly, in their wisdom will fix upon that place which shall appear, all things considered, to combine the greatest advantages.

MASSACHUSETTS BAPTIST EDUCATION SOCIETY.

From some extracts of a late report of the Executive Committee of this Society, given in a Boston paper, it appears that during the eleven years of its existence, 65 young men have been received to its charities, between twenty and thirty of whom have already been ordained, and are labouring in different places with favourable prospects. The present number of beneficiaries is 21.

JEWS IN PERSIA.

[*From Mr. Wolff's Journal.*]

The Jews of Bassorah, and those of Persia who reside at Bassorah, give a melancholy account of the Jews in Persia. The Jews there are more oppressed than their countrymen in the Ottoman empire. The courtiers of the Shah often go in search of beautiful virgins of the house of Israel & when they find a handsome Jewess, they give notice to the Shah, and the daughter of Israel is immediately brought to the Haram, and forced to embrace the Mahomedan religion and to put on the slavish ornaments of queen consort. The bereft and afflicted parents do not dare to manifest a sigh, which would be considered as high treason, and the unhappy girl is not allowed any more to kiss the hands of her parents, or to say to them, "Peace be with you;" for that salutation of peace belongs only to the enemies of that religion in which she was born, to the enemies of her nation.* And although residing in the same city with her parents, she is not permitted to see them any more. Thou who lovdest thy people more than Mordacai did, & who art more—much more compassionate than Esther, when wilt thou hasten to send the letter of glad tidings, unto all the Jews into all the provinces of the earth, with words of peace and truth contained in thine everlasting gospel?

There are 60 Jews from Persia at Bassorah, who sought an asylum in the land of a tyrant, on account of the greater oppression which they suffered in Persia.

Eliau Ben Abraham Levi, a native of Sniraz, in Persia called on me. I asked him the reason of his having left Shiraz, where his wife and children are! He replied, "On account of the hardness of our captivity, which is great through the abundance of our sins. When we are assembled in the synagogue, we are often surprised by the entrance of a soldier, sent by government, with an order in his hand to pay such and such a sum to the Shah! Our law forbids us to curse the king, and for this reason I will not curse my king, nor curse with a cursing the Shah of Persia. But I must say we wait anxiously for the redemption; for heavy is our captivity, heavy is our burden, heavy is our slavery. I have been at Jerusalem, and in the land of Aghwan, (Afghan,) even down to Bokhara, the Jews are every where princes, in comparison with those of the land of Persia."

*The Mahomedans do not allow Christians and Jews to give each other the *salam*, which signifies peace.—*Wolff.*

Religious Intelligence.

MACKINAW MISSION.

Extract of a letter from Mr. Hudson, to one of the publishers of the Western Recorder, dated, Mackinaw, Nov. 6th, 1825.

"Our family are in usual health, our prospects flattering, our new mission buildings to be occupied, if the Lord will, this week; and all to be dedicated next Sabbath. We have evident tokens that the Lord is with us, and carrying on his work. Soon after I last wrote you, three were added to the Lord from the heathen world,—of which you will soon see a particular account in the Missionary Register. We now indulge a trembling hope that the Lord is taking two more from the same pit of ignorance and wretchedness. The number of children now with us, is 77."

The box sent on from Utica, to the station, had not arrived when Mr. H.'s letter was written. Ere this, it has probably been received.

DOMESTIC MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Our readers will rejoice at every such instance as the following, which appears in the New York Observer, of the 26th ult.

Donation of $4,500.—The treasurer of the United Domestic Missionary Society acknowledges the receipt of four obligations for ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS each, payable respectively on the first days of May, 1826, 1827, 1828, and 1829, to aid this Society in sending missionaries into the western states, and planting them there; and also $500 in cash, towards the first expenses of such missions.

A few such donations as this, would place the funds of this institution on a permanent basis; and contribute to extend the operations of Domestic missions, far beyond any former precedent. And what subject of benevolence is there which presents a more inviting aspect?

The treasurer also acknowledges since the 17th of August, a number of sums to constitute life directors and life members, and a number of donations, receipts from auxiliaries, and collections in churches, amounting in all to $1962 16

Add the above donation, 4500 00

and the total amount will be $6462 16

From the American Missionary Register.

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONERS, APPOINTED TO VISIT THE TUSCARORA, SENECA, AND CATTARAUGUS STATIONS.

A few weeks since, the Rev. Mr. Crane, Domestic Secretary of the United Foreign Missionary Society, and the Rev. Mr. Penny, of Rochester, were appointed commissioners to visit the Tuscarora, Seneca, and Cattaraugus Missionary Stations, for the purpose of ascertaining their state; and making such alterations, as might, in view of their situation, appear to be expedient. The following are extracts from their report to the Board.

"We met at Rochester, on the 30th of September, and devoted as much time, as circumstances would permit, to the most deliberate and serious reflection on the objects of our instructions, until Monday, the 3d of October, when we started for Seneca. The improvements which we determined to make, should they appear practicable and desirable on our arrival, were suggested by some general knowledge of Indians and Indian missions, and of these stations in particular. With a view to the retrenchment of expenses; the giving to the missions more of a religious, and less of a secular character; to retain all the advantages, and avoid many existing evils of the present plan, your commissioners, after frequent and protracted conferences, concluded to announce to the Indians at the several stations, the contemplated adoption of the following measures, viz.

1. That the Rev. Mr. Harris be released from his particular connexion with the secular operations of the establishments, and be instructed to devote his whole time to the work of

the ministry, among the Tuscarora, Seneca, and Cattaraugus Indians; to preach in each of these three places in turn; to spend two or three days subsequent to the Sabbath, among the natives to whom he has preached, in visiting families and schools; and to spend the remainder of his time in preparing for the duties of the Sabbath, and in the study of the Seneca language.

"2. That the boarding-school at Cattaraugus be broken up; that ordinary schools be established at the three stations, which the children can attend, and yet live with their parents & be supported by them; that educated Indian youth be employed as teachers so far as practicable; that these schools be superintended & inspected by Mr. Harris; that, from these ordinary schools, such children, and only such, shall be selected by Mr. Harris, as have, after sufficient trial, evinced dispositions and capacities deserving special cultivation; that these be placed in one central boarding school at Seneca; that, upon these, all necessary care and attention be bestowed, to qualify them for the most important stations among their people; and that the whole of these operations be subjected to the general and regular inspection of the minister; his acts subject only to the revision of the Board."

Difficulties were anticipated by the commissioners, in making these arrangements, but they were happily disappointed.

"The Board say they will more readily conceive, than we can express, the grateful surprise of the commissioners, at finding their devoted and judicious missionary, Mr. Harris, fully prepared, by his own reflections and experience, not only to accede to our proposals most cordially, but ardently to desire the arrangements contemplated. This event encouraged our hearts. The prospect of augmented usefulness, although requiring more labour, appeared to cheer the heart of every member of this most interesting and lovely family.

"The chiefs were apprized of our arrival, and requested to meet in council at 12 o'clock. They were punctual in assembling, and, after imploring the guidance and benediction of the Great Spirit, we informed them of the adoption of the first, and our intention to submit the second arrangement for adoption to the Board. They listened attentively and seriously; and after conferring together, according to their usual custom, assured us that they had understood every part of our communication: that they were very thankful for the anxiety and kindness of the Board; that they most cheerfully consented to give up their minister two Sabbaths out of three, for the sake of their destitute brethren; that they were sensible that the Board was doing much for them; that they were pleased to submit to any arrangements that might reduce the expense of the missions; that they had long wished for something of this kind, but had not ventured to express their desires; that they saw that the Great Spirit was with us, because, although this was a great thing for them, and we had been far apart from each other, yet *their minds* and *ours were one*,—and, that they fully agreed to all we proposed. Your commissioners could not but be much affected at hearing sentiments so full of good sense and gratitude, from these lately ignorant and selfish men: we were, however, still more affected and gratified when they added, that they hoped and wished that our plan could be so extended as to permit Mr. Harris to visit their brethren at Alleghany, on the Genesee river, &c. occasionally. We hailed this suggestion as a fruit of the engrafted word. Mr. Harris consented, and your commissioners replied, that it should be left to him to determine when circumstances permitted him to pay these an occasional visit. In closing the conference, we united in expressing our gratitude to God, and in supplicating the continuance of his presence and blessing. The principal chief, Young King, was deputed to accompany us to Cattaraugus, for the purpose of stating to their brethren, their motives for approving the measures proposed.

"On Thursday, the 6th inst. we arrived at the Cattaraugus mission house, and runners were immediately despatched, to notify the chiefs of our arrival, and to request an interview next morning. Before disclosing our sentiments or proceedings at Seneca, to Mr. Thayer, we inquired, whether, after the experience of two years in a flourishing school, he had any improvements to suggest, in relation to the mode of conducting schools among the Indians. After some hesitation, he stated that his experience had fully satisfied him, that the system could be improved, and proceeded to suggest *precisely the same plan*, in all its features, which we had to propose. These facts are mentioned, to show that the mission families as well as Indians, appeared to be prepared in Providence, to appreciate and approve, what had been devised during our conferences in Rochester.

(*To be continued.*)

A Motive to do Good.—The following extract from one of the western missionaries to a friend in the vicinity of Utica, will not be deemed unworthy of preservation.

"I see by the last Recorder, that you have been called to part with your dear little F. A. What is this but a suffering, dying world,—and what would it be, if God did not govern it, and dispose of it as he pleases! Let the truth, that he does so, comfort both your heart and mine. Would you not like to have *her name perpetuated in our schools? If she had lived, it would have cost you more than twelve dollars per annum, to support her.*"

We are happy to add that the terms of this suggestion have been complied with.

PREMIUM OFFERED FOR A TRACT.

The Committee of the *American Tract Society*, instituted at New-York, have received a donation of *Fifty dollars*, to constitute a premium to be awarded to the writer of the best tract, in the opinion of the Publishing Committee, which shall be presented previous to the first day of January next, "On the duty of professors of religion, especially those who have wealth to consecrate their property to the spread of the Gospel.

The communications should be addressed to *Mr. William A. Hallock Corresponding Secretary of the American Tract Society, No. 3, Cedar-street New-York;* and the wishes of the writers, as to the mention of their names, and the disposal of their manuscripts after they have been read by the Committee, will be in all respects strictly complied with.—*N. Y. Obs.*

REVIVALS.

We continue to hear favourable accounts from Vernon. The work there, has evidently been great and glorious; and though the subjects of it are already numerous, it is to be hoped that the harvest is not yet past nor the summer ended; but that there are many that will be saved.

Since the revival began at Vernon; a similar work has commenced in Western, a town lying north of Rome in this county. This town has, till lately been a perfect moral desert. Its inhabitants had been a prey to sectarian dissensions and to almost every species of error and heresy. Universalism had flourished there; and a regular clergyman of any denomination, we believe, has never been settled among them.

Yet this most unpromising field for spiritual cultivation is now visited with the dews of heaven. The excitement under the labours of Rev. Mr. Finney, has become great and extensive; and a general aspect of seriousness pervades the whole town. The hopeful subjects of the work, we understand are becoming numerous; and in one instance five are mentioned as belonging to a single family. The work is also extending to the north part of Rome, as far as Wright's Settlement and great hopes are still entertained respecting it.

WESTERN RECORDER.

UTICA, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1825.

A considerable quantity of interesting matter has been omitted this week to make room for the President's Message, which we were anxious to present to our readers in its entire form. The Message is beautifully written; it contains much important information; and our readers will readily infer from it, what business is likely to come before Congress the present session. Among the topics presented are—our foreign relations—an overflowing treasury—internal improvements—Indian treaties—standard of weights and measures—a national Observatory—a national University—an increase of the navy—patent laws—Washington's monument, &c. &c. Nor does the President hesitate to place upon the very threshold of his Message, a tribute to the great Author of all our blessings and privileges.

John W. Taylor, Esq. of this state, is chosen Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The meeting of the Western Education Society will take place on *Wednesday* the 28th inst. —not *Thursday*, as notified in our last.

MESSAGE

Of the President of the United States communicated to the Senate and House of Representatives, at the commencement of the Frst Session of the Nineteenth Congress.

Fellow Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Representatives.

In taking a general survey of the concerns of our beloved country, with reference to subjects interesting to the common welfare, the first sentiment which impresses itself upon the mind, is of gratitude to the Omnipotent Dispenser of all Good, for the continuance of the signal blessings of his Providence, and especially for that health which to an unusual extent has prevailed within our borders; and for that abundance, which in the vicissitudes of the seasons, has been scattered with profusion over our land. Nor ought we less to ascribe to Him the glory that we are permitted to enjoy the bounties of His hand in peace, and tranquillity; in peace with all the other nations of the earth, in tranquillity among ourselves. There has indeed rarely been a period in the history of civilized man, in which the general condition of the Christian nations has been marked so extensively by peace and prosperity. Europe, with a few partial and unhappy exceptions, has enjoyed ten years of peace during which all her governments, whatever the theory of their constitutions may have been, are successively taught to feel that the end of their institution is the happiness of the people, and that the exercise of power among men, can be justified only by the blessings it confers upon those over whom it is extended.

During the same period, our intercourse with all those nations has been pacific and friendly—it so continues. Since the close of your last session, no material variation has occurred in our relations with any one of them. In the commercial and navigation system of Great Britain important changes of municipal regulations have recently been sanctioned by acts of Parliament, the effect of which, upon the interests of other nations, and particularly upon ours, has not yet been fully developed. In the recent renewal of the diplomatic missions on both sides, between the two governments, assurances have been given and received of the continuance and increase of that mutual confidence and cordiality, by which the adjustment of many points of difference had already been effected, and which affords the surest pledge for the ultimate satisfactory adjustment of those which still remain open or may hereafter arise.

The policy of the U. S. in their commercial intercourse with other nations, has always been of the most liberal character. In the mutual exchange of their respective productions, they have abstained altogether from prohibitions, they have interdicted themselves the power of laying taxes upon exports, and whenever they have favoured their own shipping by special preferences and exclusive privileges in their own ports, it has been only with a view to countervail similar favours and exclusions granted by the nations with whom we have been engaged in trafic, to their own people or shipping, and to the disadvantage of ours. Immediately after the close of the last war, a proposal was fairly made by the act of Congress of the 3d of March, 1815, to all the martime nations, to lay aside the system of retaliating restrictions and exclusions, and to place the shipping of both parties to the common trade, on a footing of equality, in respect to the duties of tonnage and impost. This offer was partially and successively accepted by Great Britain, Sweden, the Netherlands, the Hanseatic Cities, Prussia, Sardinia, the Duke of Oldenburgh, and Russia. It was also adopted, under certain modifications in our late commercial convention with France. And by the act of Congress of 8th Juanuary, 1824, it has received a new confirmation with all the nations who had acceded to it and has been offered again to all those who are, or may hereafter be willing to abide in reciprocity by it. But all these regulations, whether established by treaty, or by municipal enactments, are still subject to one important restriction. The removal of discriminating duties of tonnage and of imposts, is limited to articles of the growth, produce, or manufacture, of the country to which the vessel belongs, or to such articles as are most usually first shipped from her ports. It will deserve the serious consideration of Congress, whether even this remnant of restriction may not be safely abandoned, and whether the general tender of equal competition made in the act of the 8th January 1824, may not be extended to include all articles of merchandize not prohibited, of what country soever they may be the produce or manufacture. Propositions to this effect, have already been made to us by more than one European government, and it is probable that if once established by legislation or compact with any distinguished martime state, it would recommend itself by the experience of its advantages, to the general accession of all.

The Convention of Commerce and Navigation, between the United States and France, concluded on the 24th of June, 1822. was in the understanding and and intent of both parties as appears upon its face, only a temporary arrangement of the points of difference between them of the most immediate and pressing urgency. It was limited in the first instance, to two years from the first of October, 1822, but with the proviso, that it should further continue in force, till the conclusion of a general and definitive treaty of commerce, unless terminated by a notice of six months in advance of either of the parties to the other. Its operation, so far as it extended, has been mutually advantageous, and it still continues in force, by mutual consent. But it left unadjusted several objects of great interest to the citizens and subjects of both countries, and particularly a mass of claims, to considerable amount, of citizens of the United States upon the government of France, of indemnity for property taken or destroyed under circumstances of the most aggravated and outrageous character. In the long period during which continual and earnest appeals have been made to the equity and magnanimity of France, in behalf of these claims, their justice has not been, as it could not be, denied. It was hoped that the accession of a new sovereign to the throne, would have afforded a favourable opportunity for presenting them to the consideration of his government. They have been presented and urged hitherto, without effect. The repeated and earnest representations of our Minister at the court of France, remain as yet, without an answer. Were the demands of nations upon the justice of each other susceptible of adjudication by the sentence of an impartial tribunal, those to which I now refer, would long since have been settled, and adequate indemnity would have been obtained. There are large amounts of similar claims upon the Netherlands, Naples, and Denmark. For those upon Spain, prior to 1819, indemnity was, after many years of patient forbearance, obtained; and those upon Sweden have been lately compromised by a private settlement, in which the claimants themselves have acquiesced. The governments of Denmark and of Naples have been recently reminded of those existing against them; nor will any of them be forgotten, while a hope may be indulged of obtaining justice, by the means within the constitutional power of the Executive, and without resorting to those measures of self redress, which, as well as the time, circumstances and occasion, which may require them, are within the exclusive competency of the Legislature.

It is with great satisfaction that I am enabled to bear witness to the liberal spirit with which the Republic of Colombia has made satisfaction for well-established claims of a similar character. And among the documents now communicated to Congress, will be distinguished a treaty of Commerce and Navigation with that Republic, the ratifications of which have been exchanged since the last recess of the Legislature. The negotiation of similar treaties with all the independent South American States, has been contemplated, and may yet be accomplished. The basis of them all as proposed by the United States, has been laid in two principles; the one of entire and unqualified reprocity; the other the mutual obligation of the parties, to place each other permanently upon the footing of the most favoured nation. These principles are, indeed, indispensable to the effectual emancipation of the American hemisphere from the thraldom of colonizing monopolies and exclusions; an event rapidly realizing in the progress of human affairs, and which the resistance still opposed in certain parts of Europe to the acknowledgment of the Southern American Republics as independent states, will, it is believed, contribute more effectually to accomplish. The time has been, and that not remote, when some of those States might, in their anxious desire to obtain a nominal recognition, have accepted a nominal independence, clogged with burdensome conditions, and exclusive commercial privileges granted to the nation from which they have separated, to the disadvantage of all others. They are now all aware that such concessions to any European nation, would be incompatible with that independence which they have declared and maintained.

Among the measures which have been suggested to them by the new relations with one another, resulting from the recent changes of their condition, is that of assembling at the Isthmus of Panama, a Congress at which each of them should be represented, to deliberate upon the objects important for the welfare of all. The Republics of Colombia, of Mexico and of Central America, have already deputed Plenipotentiaries to such a meeting, and they have invited the United States to be also represented there by their ministers. The invitation has been accepted, and ministers on the part of the United States will be commissioned to attend at those deliberations, and to take part in them, so far as may be compatible with that neutrality from which it is neither our intention, nor the desire of the other American States that we should depart.

The Commissioners under the Seventh Article of the Treaty of Ghent have so nearly completed their labours, that, by the Report recently received from the agent on the part of the United States, there is reason to expect that the commission will be closed at their next session, appointed for the 2d of May of the ensuing year.

The other commission, appointed to ascertain the indemnities due for slaves carried away from the United States, after the close of the late war, have met with some difficulty, which has delayed their progress in the inquiry. A reference has been made to the British Government on the subject, which, it may be hoped, will tend to hasten the decision of the Commissioners, or serve as a substitute for it.

Among the powers specifically granted to Congress by the constitution, are those of established uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies, throughout the United States; and of providing for the organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States. The magnitude and complexity of the interests affected by legislation upon these subjects may account for the fact, that, long and often as both of them have occupied the attention, and animated the debates of Congress, no systems have yet been devised, for fulfilling, to the satisfaction of the community, the duties prescribed by these grants of power. To conciliate the claim of the individual citizen to the enjoyment of personal liberty, with the effective obligation of private contracts, is the difficult problem to be solved by a law of bankruptcy. These are objects of the deepest interest to society; affecting all that is precious in the existence of multitudes; of persons, many of them in the classes essentially dependent and helpless; of the age requiring nurture; and of the sex entitled to protection from the free agency of the parent and of the husband. The organization of the militia is yet more indispensable to the liberties of the country. It is only by an effective militia, that we can at once enjoy the repose of peace, and bid defiance to foreign aggression; it is by the militia that we are constituted an armed nation, standing in perpetual panoply of defence, in the presence of all the other nations of the earth. To this end, it would be necessary so to shape its organization, as to give it a more united and active energy. There are laws for establishing an uniform militia throughout the United States, and for arming and equipping its whole body.

But it is a body of dislocated members, without the vigor of unity, and having little of uniformity but the name. To infuse into this important institution the power of which it is susceptible, to make it available for the defence of the Union, at the shortest notice, and at the smallest expense of time, of life, and of treasure, are among the benefits to be expected from the persevering deliberations of Congress.

Among the unequivocal indications of our national prosperity, is the flourishing state of our finances. The revenues of the present year, from all their principal sources, will exceed the anticipations of the last. The balance in the treasury, on the first of January last, was a little short of two millions of dollars, exclusive of two millions and a half, being the money of the loan of five millions, authorised by the act of the 26th May, 1824. The receipts into the treasury from the 1st of January, to the 30th of September, exclusive of the other moiety of the same loan, are estimated at sixteen millions five hundred thousand dollars, and it is expected that those of the current quarter will exceed five millions of dollars; forming an aggregate of receipts of nearly twenty-two millions, independent of the loan. The expenditures of the year will not exceed that sum more than two millions. By those expenditures, nearly eight millions of the principal of the public debt have been discharged. More than a million and a half has been devoted to the debt of gratitude to the warriors of the revolution; a nearly equal sum to the construction of fortifications and the acquisition of ordnance, and other permanent preparatives of national defence; half a million to the gradual increase of the Navy; an equal sum for purchases of territory from the Indians, and payment of annuities to them; and upwards of a million for objects of internal improvement, authorised by special acts of the last Congress. If we add to these, four millions of dollars, for payment of interest upon the public debt, there remains a sum of about seven millions, which have defrayed the whole expense of the administration of government, in its Legislative, Executive, and Judiciary departments, including the support of the Military and Naval Establishments, and all the occasional contingencies of a government co-extensive with the Union.

The amount of duties secured on merchandise imported, from the commencement of the year, is about twenty-five millions and a half; and that which will accrue during the current quarter, is estimated at five millions and a half; from these thirty-one millions, deducting the drawbacks, estimated at less than seven millions, a sum exceeding twenty-four millions will constitute the revenue of the year; and will exceed the whole expenditures of the year. The entire amount of public debt remaining due on the first of January next, will be short of eighty-one millions of dollars.

By an act of Congress of the third of March last, a loan of twelve millions of dollars was authorised at four and a half per cent; or an exchange of stock to that amount, of four and a half per cent for a stock of six per cent, to create a fund for extinguishing an equal amount of the public debt, bearing an interest of six per cent, redeemable in 1826. An account of the measures taken to give effect to this act, will be laid before you by the Secretary of the treasury. As the object which it had in view has been but partially accomplished, it will be for the consideration of Congress, whether the power with which it clothed the Executive should not be renewed at an early day of the present session, and under what modifications.

The act of Congress of the third of March last, directing the Secretary of the treasury to subscribe, in the name and for the use of the United States, for one thousand five hundred shares of the capital stock of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal company, has been executed by the actual subscription for the amount specified; and such other measures have been adopted by that officer, under the act, as the fulfilment of its intention requires. The latest accounts received of this important undertaking, authorise the belief that it is in successful progress.

The payments into the treasury, from proceeds of the sales of the Public Lands, during the present year, were estimated at one million of dollars. The actual receipts of the two first quarters have fallen very little short of that sum: it is not expected that the second half of the year will be equally productive; but the income of the year from that source may now be safely estimated at a million and a half.

The act of Congress of the 18th May, 1824, to provide for the extinguishment of the debt due to the United States by the purchasers of public lands, was limited, in its operation of relief to the purchaser, to the 1st of April last. Its effect at the end of the quarter during which it expired, was to reduce that debt from ten to seven millions. By the operations of similar prior laws of relief, from and since that of the 2d March, 1821, the debt had been reduced from upwards of twenty-two millions to ten. It is exceedingly desirable that it should be extinguished altogether; and to facilitate that consummation, I recommend to Congress the revival, for one year more, of the act of 18th May, 1824, with such provisional modification as may be necessary to guard the public interest against fraudulent practices, in the re sale of the relinquished land. The purchasers of public lands are among the most useful of our fellow-citizens; and, since the system of sales for cash alone has been introduced, great indulgence has been justly extended to those who had previously purchased upon credit. The debt which had been contracted under the credit sales had become unwieldy, and its extinction was alike advantageous to the purchaser and the public. Under the system of sales, matured, as it has been, by experience, and adapted to the exigencies of the times, the lands will continue, as they have become, an abundant source of revenue; and when the pledge of them to the public creditor shall have been redeemed, by the entire discharge of the national debt, the swelling tide of wealth with which they replenish the common treasury may be made to reflow in unfailing streams of improvement, from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

The condition of the various branches of the public service resorting from the Department of War, and their administration during the current year, will be exhibited in the Report from the Secretary of War, and the accompanying documents, herewith communicated. The organization and discipline of the army are effective and satisfactory. To counteract the prevalence of desertion among the troops, it has been suggested to withhold from the men a small portion of their monthly pay, until the period of their discharge; and some expedient seems neceseary to preserve and maintain among the officers, so much of the art of horsemanship, as could scarcely fail to be found wanting, on the possible sudden eruption of a war, which should overtake us, unprovided with a single corps of cavalry. The Military Academy at West Point, under the restrictions of a severe, but paternal superintendence, recommends itself more and more to the patronage of the nation; and the number of meritorious officers which it forms and introduces to the public service, furnishes the means of multiplying the undertakings of public improvements, to which their acquirements at that institution are peculiarly adapted. The school of Artillery Practice, established at Fortress Monroe, is well suited to the same purpose, and may need the aid of further legislative provision to the same end. The Reports from the various officers at the head of the administrative branches of the military service, connected with the quartering, clothing, subsistence, health, and pay of the Army, exhibit the assiduous vigilance of those officers in the performance of their respective duties, and the faithful accountability which has pervaded every part of the system.

Our relations with the numerous tribes of aboriginal natives of this country, scattered over its extensive surface, and so dependent, even for their existence, upon our power, have been during the present year, highly interesting. An act of Congress, of 25th May, 1824, made an appropriation to defray the expenses of making Treaties of trade and friendship with the Indian Tribes beyond the Mississippi. An act of 3d March, 1825, authorized treaties to be made with Indians for their consent to the making of a road from the frontier of Missouri to that of New Mexico; and another act, of the same date, provided for defraying the expenses of holding treaties with the Sioux, Chippeways; Menomonees, Sacks, Foxes, &c. for the purpose of establishing boundaries and promoting peace between said tribes. The first and the last objects of these Acts have been accomplished; and the second is yet in a process of execution. The treaties which since the last session of Congress, have been concluded with the several tribes, will be laid before the Senate, for their consideration, conformably to the constitution. They comprise large and valuable acquisitions of territory; and they secure an adjustment of boundaries, and give pledges of permanent peace between several tribes, which had been long waging bloody wars against each other.

On the 12th of February last, a treaty was signed at the Indian Springs, between commissioners appointed on the part of the United States, and certain Chiefs and individuals of the Creek Nation of Indians, which was received at the seat of Government, only a few days before the close of the last session of Congress and of the late administration. The advice and consent of the Senate was given to it, on the 3d March, too late for it to receive the ratification of the then President of the U. States; it was ratified on the 7th of March, under the unsuspecting impression that it had been negociated in good faith, and in the confidence inspired by the recommendation of the Senate. The subsequent transactions in relation to this treaty, will form the subject of a separate message.

The appropriations made by Congress, for public works, as well in the construction of fortifications, as for purposes of internal improvement, so far as they have been expended have been faithfully applied. Their progress has been delayed by the want of suitable officers for superintending them. An increase of both the corps of engineers, military and topographical, was recommended by my predecessor at the late session of Congress. The reasons upon which that recommendation was founded, subsist in all their force, and have acquired additional urgency since that time. It may also be expedient to organize the topographical engineers into a corps similar to the present establishment of the corps of engineers. The Military Academy at West Point, will furnish, from the cadets annually graduated there, officers well qualified for carrying this measure into effect.

The Board of engineers for Internal Improvement, appointed for carrying into execution the act of Congress of the 30th of April, 1824, "to procure the necessary surveys, plans and estimates on the subject of roads and canals," have been actively engaged in that service from the close of the last session of Congress. They have completed the surveys necessary for ascertaining the practicability of a canal from the Chesapeake Bay to the Ohio River, and are preparing a full report on that subject; which, when completed will be laid before you. The same observation is to be made with regard to the two other objects of national importance, upon which the Board have been occupied; namely, the accomplishment of a national road from this city to New Orleans, and the practicability of uniting the waters of Lake Memphremagog with Connecticut river, and the improvement of the navigation of that river. The surveys have been made, and nearly completed. The report may be expected at an early period during the present session of Congress.

The acts of Congress of the last session relative to the surveying, marking or laying out roads in the territories of Florida, Arkansas and Michigan, from Missouri to Mexico, and for the continuation of the Cumberland road, are, some of them, fully executed, and others in the process of execution. Those for completing or commencing fortifications, have been delayed only so far as the Corps of Engineers has been inadequate to furnish officers for the necessary superintendence of the works. Under the act confirming the statutes of Virginia and Maryland, incorporating the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Company, three commissioners on the part of the United States have been appointed for opening books and receiving subscriptions, in concert with a like number of commissioners appointed on the part of each of those states. A meeting of the commissioners has been postponed to await the definitive report of the board of engineers. The light houses and monuments for the safety of our commerce and mariners: the works for the security of Plymouth Beach, and for the preservation of the islands in Boston harbor, have received the attention required by the laws relating to those objects respectively. The continuation of the Cumberland road, the most important of them all, after surmounting no inconsiderable difficulty in fixing upon the direction of the road, has commenced under the most promising auspices, with the improvements of recent invention in the mode of construction, and with the advantage of a great reduction in the comparative cost of the work.

The operation of the laws relative to the Revolutionary pensioners may deserve the renewed consideration of congress. The act of the 18th of March, 1818, while it made provision for many meritorious and indigent citizens, who had served in the War of Independence, opened a door to numerous abuses and impositions. To remedy this, the act of 1st May, 1820, exacted proofs of absolute indigence, which many really in want were unable, and all, susceptible of that delicacy which is allied to many virtues, must be deeply reluctant to give. The result has been that some among the least deserving have been retained, and some in whom the requisites both of worth and want were combined, have been stricken from the list. As the numbers of these venerable relics of age gone by diminish; as the decays of mind, body and estate, of those that survive, must in the common course of nature increase, should not a more liberal portion of indulgence be dealt out to them? May not the want, in most instances, be inferred from the demand, when the service can be duly proved? And may not the last days of human infirmity be spared the mortification of purchasing a pittance of relief only by the exposure of its own necessities? I submit to Congress the expediency either of providing for individual cases of this description by special enactment, or of revising the act of 1st May, 1820, with a view to mitigate the rigor of its exclusions, in favour of persons to whom charity now bestowed can scarcely discharge the debt of justice.

The portion of the naval force of the Union in actual service, has been chiefly employed on three stations. The Mediterranean, the coasts of S. America bordering on the Pacific Ocean, and the West Indies. An occasional cruiser has been sent to range along the African shores most polluted by the traffic of slaves; one armed vessel has been stationed on the coast of our eastern boundary, to cruise along the fishing grounds in Hudson's Bay, and on the coast of Labrador; and the first service of a new frigate has been performed in restoring to his native soil and domestic enjoyments, the veteran hero, whose youthful blood and treasure had freely flowed in the cause of our country's Independence, and whose whole life had been a series of services and sacrifices to the improvement of his fellow men. The visit of General La Fayette, alike honourable to himself and to our country, closed, as it had commenced, with the most affecting testimonials of devoted attachment on his part, and of the unbounded gratitude of this people to him in return. It will form, hereafter, a pleasing incident in the annals of our Union, giving to real history the intense interest of romance, and signally marking the unpurchasable tribute of a great nation's social affections to the disinterested champion of the liberties of human kind.

The constant maintenance of a small squadron in the Mediterranean is a necessary substitute for the humiliating alternative of paying tribute for the security of our commerce in that sea, and for a precarious peace, at the mercy of every caprice of four Barbary States, by whom it was liable so be violated. An additional motive for keeping a respectable force stationed there at this time, is found in the maritime war raging between the Greeks and the Turks; and in which the neutral navigation of this Union is always in danger of outrage and depredation. A few instances have occurred of such depradations upon our merchant vessels by privateers or pirates wearing the Grecian flag, but without real authority from the Greek or any other government. The heroic struggles of the Greeks themselves, in which our warmest sympathies as freemen and Christians have been engaged, have continued to be maintained with vicissitudes of success adverse and favourable.

Similar motives have rendered expedient the keeping of a like force on the coasts of Peru and Chili on the Pacific. The irregular and convulsive character of the war upon the shores, has been extended to the conflicts upon the ocean. An active warfare has been kept up for years, with alternate success, though generally to the advantage of the American pariots. But their naval forces have not always been under the control of their own governments. Blockades, unjustifiable upon any principles of international law, have been proclaimed by officers in command; and though disavowed by the supreme authorities, the protection of our own commerce against them has been made cause of complaint and of erroneous imputations upon some of the most gallant officers of our navy. Complaints equally groundless have been made by the commanders of the Spanish royal forces in those seas; but the most effective protection to our commerce has been the flag and the firmness of our own commanding officers. The cessation of the war, by the complete triumph of the patriot cause, has removed, it is hoped, all cause of dissension with one party, and all vestige of force from the other. But an unsettled coast of many degrees of latitude, forming a part of our own territory, and a flourishing commerce and fishery, extending to the islands of the Pacific and to China, still require that the protecting power of the Union should be displayed under its flag as well upon the ocean as upon the land.

The objects of the West India squadron have been to carry into execution the laws for the suppression of the African slave trade; for the protection of our commerce against vessels of piratical character, though bearing commissions from either of the belligerent parties; for its protection against open and unequivocal pirates. These objects during the present year have been accomplished more effectually than at any former period. The African slave trade has long been excluded from the use of our flag; and if some few citizens of our country have continued to set the laws of the Union, as well as those of nature and humanity, at defiance, by persevering in that abominable traffic it has been only by sheltering themselves under the banners of other nations, less earnest for the total extinction of the trade than ours. The irregular privateers have, within the last year, been in a great measure banished from those seas; and the pirates, for months past appear to have been almost entirely swept away from the borders and shores of the two Spanish islands in those regions. The active, persevering and unremitted energy of Capt. Warrington and the officers and men under his command, on that trying and perilous service, have been crowned with signal success, and are entitled to the approbation of their country. But experience has shown, that not even a temporary suspension or relaxation from assiduity can be indulged on that station without reproducing piracy and murder in all their horrors; nor is it probable that for years to come our immensely valuable commerce in those seas can navigate in security, without the steady continuance of an armed force devoted to its protection.

It were indeed a vain and dangerous illusion to believe that in the present or probable condition of human society, a commerce so extensive and so rich as ours could exist and be pursued in safety, without the continual support of a military marine, the only arm by which the power of this confederacy can be estimated or felt by foreign nations, and the only standing military force which can never be dangerous to our own liberties at home. A permanent naval peace establishment therefore, adapted to our present condition, and adapted to that gigantic growth with which the nation is advancing in its career, is among the subjects which have already occupied the foresight of the last Congress, and which will deserve your serious deliberation. Our Navy, commenced at an early period of our present political organization upon a scale commensurate with the incipient energies, the scanty resources, and the comparative indigence of our infancy, was even then found adequate to cope with all the powers of Barbary, save the first and with one of the principal maritime powers of Europe. At a period of further advancement, but with little accession of strength, it not only sustained with honour the most unequal of conflicts, but covered itself and our country with unfading glory. But it is only since the close of the late war, that by the number and force of the ships of which it was composed it could deserve the name of a Navy. Yet it retains nearly the same organization as when it consisted only of five frigates. The rules and regulations by which it is governed urgently call for revision, & the want of a Naval school of instruction, corresponding with the Military academy at West Point for the formation of scientific and accomplished officers, is felt with daily increasing aggravation.

The act of congress, of 26th May, 1824, authorising an examination and survey of the harbour of Charleston in South Carolina, of St. Mary's, in Georgia, and of the Coast of Florida, and for other purposes, has been executed so far as the appropriation would admit. Those of the third of March last, authorising the establishment of a Navy Yard and depot on the coast of Florida, in the Gulf of Mexico, and authorising the building of ten sloops of war, and for other purposes, are in the course of execution, for the particulars of which, and other objects connected with this department, I refer to the report of the Secretary of the Navy, herewith communicated.

A report from the Postmaster General, is also submitted, exhibiting the present flourishing condition of that department. For the first time for many years, the receipts for the year ending on the first of July last, exceeded the expenditures during the same period, to the amount of more than forty five thousand dollars. Other facts equally creditable to the administration of the department are, that in two years from the first of July, 1823, an improvement of more than one hundred and eighty five thousand dollars in its pecuniary affairs have been realized; that in the same interval the increase of the transportation of the mail has exceeded one million five hundred thousand miles, annually; and that one thousand and forty new post offices have been established. It hence appears that under judicious management, the income from this establishment may be relied on as fully adequate to defray its expenses; and that by the discontinuance of post-roads altogether unproductive, others of more useful character may be opened, till the circulation of the mail shall keep pace with the spread of our population; and the comforts of friendly correspondence, the exchange of internal traffic, & the lights of the periodical press, shall be distributed to the remotest corners of the union, at a charge scarcely perceptible to any individual and without the cost of a dollar to the public treasury.

Upon this first occasion of addressing the legislature of the union with which I have been honoured, in presenting to their view the execution, so far as it has been effected, of the measures sanctioned by them for promoting the internal improvement of our country, I cannot close the communication without recommending to their calm and persevering consideration, the general principal in a more enlarged extent. The great object of the institution of civil government, is the improvement of the condition of those who are parties to the social compact: and no government, in whatever form constituted, can accomplish the lawful ends of its institution, but in proportion as it improves the condition of those over whom it is established. Roads and canals, by multiplying and facilitating the communications and intercourse between distant regions, and multitudes of men are among the most important means of improvement. But moral political intellectual improvement, are duties assigned by the author of our existence, to society no less than to individual man. For the fulfilment of those duties, governments are invested with power, and to the attainment of the end, the progressive improvement of the condition of the governed, the exercise of delegated power, is a duty as sacred and indispensable, as the usurpation of power not granted is criminal and odious. Among the first perhaps the very first instrument for the improvement of the condition of men, is knowledge; and to the acquisition of much of the knowledge adapted to the wants, the comforts and enjoyments of human life, public institutions and seminaries of learning are essential. So convinced of this was the first of my predecessors in this office, now first in the memory, as living, he was first in the hearts of our country, that once and again in his addresses in the congress, with whom he co-operated in the public service, he earnestly recommended the establishment of seminaries of learning to prepare for all the emergencies of peace and war—a national university and a military academy. With respect to the latter had he lived the present day, in turning his eyes to the institution at West Point he would have enjoyed the gratification of his most earnest wishes. But, in surveying the city which has been honoured with his name, he would have seen the spot of earth which he had destined and bequeathed to the use and benefit of his country, as the site for a university, still bare and barren.

In assuming her station among the civilized nations of the earth, it would seem that our country had contracted the engagement to contribute her share of mind, of labour and of expense, to the improvement of those parts of knowledge that lie beyond the reach of individual acquisition; and particularly to geographical and astronomical science. Looking back to the history only of the half century since the Declaration of our Independence, and observing the generous emulation with which the governments of France, Great Britain and Rusia, have devoted the genius, the intelligence, the treasures of their respective nations, to the common improvement of the species in these branches of science, is it not incumbent upon us to inquire whether we are not bound by obligations of a high and honourable character, to contribute our portion of energy and exertion to the common stock? The voyages of discovery, prosecuted in the course of that time, at the expense of those nations, have not only redounded to their glory, but to the improvement of human knowledge. We have been partakers of that improvement, and owe for it a sacred debt, not only of gratitude, but of equal or proportional exertion in the same common cause. Of the cost of these undertakings, if the mere expenditures of outfit, equipment and completion of the expenditions were to be considered the only charges, it would be unworthy of a great and generous nation to take a second thought. One hundred expeditions of circumnavigation, like those of Cook and La Perouse, would not burden the exchquer of the nation fitting them out, so much as the ways and means of defraying a single campaign in war.

But if we take into the account the lives of those benefactors of mankind, of which their services in the cause of their species were the purchase, how shall the cost of those heroic enterprises be estimated? And what compensation can be made to them, or to their countries, for them? Is it not by bearing them in affectionate remembrance? Is it not still more by imitating their example? by enabling countrymen of our own to pursue the same career, and to hazard their lives in the same cause?

In inviting the attention of Congress to the subject of internal improvements, upon a view thus enlarged, it is not my design to recommend the equipment of an expedition for circumnavigating the globe for purposes of scientific research and inquiry. We have objects of useful investigation nearer home, and to which our cares may be more beneficially applied. The interior of our own territories has yet been very imperfectly explored. Our coasts along many degrees of latitude upon the shores of the Pacific ocean, though much frequented by our spirited commercial navigators, have been barely visited by our public ships. The River of the West, first fully discovered and navigated by a countryman of our own, still bears the name of the ship in which he ascended its waters, and claims the protection of our armed national flag at its mouth. With the establishment of a military post there, or at some point of that coast, recommended by my predecessor, and already matured, in the deliberations of the last Congress, I would suggest the expediency of connecting the equipment of a public ship for the exploration of the whole north-west coast of this continent.

The establishment of an uniform standard of weights and measures was one of the specific objects contemplated in the formation of our Constitution, and to us that standard was one of the powers delegated by express terms, in that instrument, to Congress. The governments of Great Britain and France have scarcely ceased to be occupied with inquiries and speculations on the same subject, since the existence of our constitution, and with them it has expanded into profound, laborious, and expensive researches into the figure of the earth, and the comparative length of the pendulum vibrating seconds in various latitudes from the Equator to the Pole. These researches have resulted in the composition and publication of several works highly interesting to the cause of science. The experiments, are yet in the process of performance.—Some of them have recently been made on our own shores, within the walls of one of our own Colleges, and partly by one of our own fellow citizens. It would be honorable to our country if the sequal of the same experiments should be countenanced by the patronage of our government, as they have hitherto been by those of France and Britain.

Connected with the establishment of an University, or separate from it, might be undertaken the erection of an astronomical observatory, with provision for the support of an astronomer, to be in constant attendance of observation upon the phenomena of the heavens; and for the periodical publication of his observations. It is with no feeling of pride, as an American, that the remark may be made, that on the comparatively small territorial surface of Europe, there are existing upwards of one hundred and thirty of these light houses of the skies; while throughout the whole American hemisphere, there is not one. If we reflect a moment upon the discoveries, which in the last four centuries, have been made in the physical constitution of the universe, by the means of these buildings, and of observers stationed in them; shall we doubt of their usefulness to every nation? And while scarcely a year passes over our heads without bringing some new astronomical discovery to light, which we must fain receive at second hand from Europe, are we not cutting ourselves off from the means of returning light for light, while we have neither observatory nor observer upon our half of the globe, and the earth revolves in perpetual darkness to our unsearching eyes?

When, on the 25th of October, the first President of the United States announced to Congress the result of the first enumeration of the inhabitants of this Union, he informed them that the returns gave the pleasing assurance that the population of the United States bordered on four millions of persons At the distance of thirty years from that time, the last enumeration, five years since completed, presented a population bordering upon ten millions. Perhaps, of all the evidences of a prosperous and happy condition of human society, the rapidity of the increase of population is the most unequivocal. But the demonstration of our prosperity rests not alone upon this indication. Our commerce, our wealth, and the extent of our territories, have increased in corresponding proportion; and the number of independent communities associated in our Federal Union, has, since that time, nearly doubled. The legislative representation of the states and people, in the two Houses of Congress, has grown with the growth of their constituent bodies. The house which then consisted of 65 members, now numbers upwards of two hundred. The Senate which consisted of twenty-six members, has now forty-eight.—But the Executive, and still more the Judiciary Departments, are yet in a great measure confined to their primitive organization, and are now not adequate to the urgent wants of a still growing community.

The naval armaments which at an early period forced themselves upon the necessities of the Union, soon led to the establishment of a Department of the Navy. But the Departments of Foreign Affairs, and of the Interior, which, early after the formation of the government had been united in one, continue so united at this time, to the unquestionable detriment of the public service. The multiplication of our relations with the nations and governments of the old world, has kept pace with that of our population and commerce, while within the last ten years a new family of nations, in our own hemisphere, has arisen among the inhabitants of the earth, with whom our intercourse, commercial and political, would of itself furnish occupation to an active and industrious Department. The constitution of the Judiciary, experimental and imperfect as it was even in the infancy of our existing government, is yet more inadequate to the administration of national justice at our present maturity. Nine years have elapsed since a predecessor in this office, now not the list, the citizen who perhaps, of all others throughout the Union, contributed most to the formation and establishment of our constitution, in his valedictory address to Congress immediately preceding his retirement from public life, urgently recommended the revision of the Judiciary, and the establishment of an additional Executive Department. The exigencies of the public service, and its unavoidable deficiencies, as now in exercise, have added yearly cumulative weight to the considerations presented by him as persuasive to the measure; and in recommending it to your deliberations, I am happy to have the influence of his high authority, in aid of the undoubting convictions of my own experience.

The laws relating to the administration of the Patent Office are deserving of much consideration, and, perhaps, susceptible of some improvement. The grant of power to regulate the action of Congress on this subject, has specified both the end to be obtained, and the means by which it is to be effected. To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries. If an honest pride might be indulged in the reflection, that on the records of that office are already found inventions the usefulness of which has scarcely been transcended in the annals of human ingenuity, would not its exultation be allayed by the inquiry, whether the laws have effectually insured to the inventors the reward destined to them by the Constitution, even a limited term of exclusive right to their discoveries?

On the 24th of December, 1799, it was resolved by Congress that a marble monument should be erected by the United States in the Capitol, at Washington; that the family of General Washington should be requested to permit his body to be deposited under it, and that the monument be so designed as to commemorate the great events of his military and political life.—In reminding Congress of this resolution, and that the monument contemplated by it remains yet without execution, I shall indulge only the remarks, that the works in the Capitol are approaching to completion: that the consent of the family desired by the resolution was requested and obtained; that a monument has been recently erected in this city, at the expense of the Nation, over the remains of another distinguished Patriot of the Revolution; and that a spot has been reserved within the walls where you are deliberating for the benefit of this and future ages in which the mortal remains may be deposited of him whose spirit hovers over you; and listens with delight to every act of the Representatives of this Nation which can tend to exalt and adorn his and their country.

The constitution under which you are assembled is a charter of limited powers; after full and solemn deliberation upon all or any of the objects, which, urged by an irresistible sense of my own duty, I have recommended to your attention, should you come to the conclusion, that however desirable in themselves, the enactment of laws for effecting them, would transcend the power committed to you by that venerable instrument which we are all bound to support: let no consideration induce you to assume the exercise of powers not granted to you by the People. But if the power to exercise exclusive legislation in all cases whatsoever over the District of Columbia: if the power to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts and excise, to pay the debts, and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States; if the power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes; to fix the standard of weights and measures; to establish post-offices and post roads; to declare war; to raise and support armies; to provide and maintain a navy; to dispose of and make all needful rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States: and to make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying those powers into execution: if these powers and others enumerated in the constitution may be effectually brought into action by laws promoting the improvement of agriculture, commerce and manufactures, the cultivation and encouragement of the mechanic and of the elegant arts, the advancement of literature, and and the progress of the sciences ornamental and profound, to refrain from exercising them for the benefit of the People themselves, would be to hide in the earth the talent committed to our charge—would be treachery to the most sacred of trusts.

The spirit of improvement is abroad upon the earth. It stimulates the heart and sharpens the faculties, not of our fellow citizens alone, but of the nations of Europe and of their rulers. While dwelling with pleasing satisfaction upon the superior excellence of our political institutions, let us not be unmindful that liberty is power; that the nation blessed with the largest portion of liberty, must in proportion to its numbers, be the most powerful nation upon earth, and that the tenure of power by man is, in the moral purposes of his Creator, upon condition that it shall be exercised to ends of beneficence to improve the condition of himself and his fellow men. While foreign nations, less blessed with that freedom which is power, than ourselves are advancing with gigantic strides in the career of public improvement, were we to slumber in indolence or fold up our arms and proclaim to the world that we were palsied by the will of our constitnents, would it not be to throw away the bounties of Providence, and doom ourselves to perpetual inferiority? In the course of the year now drawing to its close, we have beheld under the auspices, and at the expense of one State of this Union, a new University unfolding its portals to the sons of science, and holding up the torch of human improvement to eyes that seek the light.—We have seen under the persevering and enlightened enterprise of another State, the waters of our western Lakes mingled with those of the ocean. If undertakings like these have been accomplished within the compass of a few years, by the authoritiy of single members of our confederation, can we, the Representative Authorities of the whole Union fall behind our fellow servants in the trust committed to us for the benefit of our common sovereign, by the accomplishment of works important to the whole, and to which neither the authority nor the resources of any one State can be adequate?

Finally fellow citizens, I shall await with cheering hope, and faithful co-operation, the result of your deliberations: assured that, without encroaching upon the powers reserved to the authorities of the respective states, or to the people, you will, with a due sense of your obligations to your country; and by the high responsibilities weighing upon yourselves, give efficacy to the means committed to you for the common good: And may He who searches the hearts of the children of men, prosper your exertions to secure the blessings of peace, and promote the highest welfare of our country.

JOHN QUINCY ADAMS.

Washington, Dec. 6. 1825.

At a recent examination of the public schools in Philadelphia, after the other exercises were concluded, an address was delivered by John K. Kane, Esq. in the course of which he stated that "of the 13,000 pupils who have been educated in the public schools of that city, but TWO individuals have been convicted of crime."

From the Rochester Telegraph Nov. 29.

"*Sometimes by Steam.*—We learn that a child of Mr. Grover, of Brighton, lost its life a few days since by being condemned to submit to the inhuman process of steaming, which the murderous disciples of Thompson have induced so many infatuated persons to inflict upon their families. In the progress of this case, we understand that a strong decoction of Cayenne pepper was administered to the victim, which very soon terminated its sufferings.

Married,

In Boston, on the 21st ult. by Rev. Mr. Sharp, Rev. Francis Wayland, Jr. to Miss Lucy Jane Lincoln.

DEATHS.

On the 7th inst. John West, a colored man, aged 86 years, was found dead under a shed in this village; verdict of the jury, that he came to his death by the visitation of God.

On the 9th inst. an infant child of Mr. Norman Spencer.—10th, Electa, wife of Mr. Patrick Dillon, aged 31.

In England, the Rt. Hon. FREDERICK HOWARD, Earl of Carlisle, aged 78.

LOST on the 30th ult. between Scott's in Deerfield, and Utica, a small RED MOROCCO POCKET BOOK, considerably worn, containing a note against Harry Rose, of $27; one against Conradt Frank, of $7,50, and a number of other notes; and papers of no consequence to any one but the owner. One dollar will be paid to any person who will leave the Pocket Book and contents at this office, or at Scott's, in Deerfield.

2wp6 DAVID ANDREW, JR.

LOOKING-GLASS FACTORY & STORE.

W. M. Gaylord,

HAS removed his establishment to a building on Genesee-street, nearly opposite the Ontario Branch Bank, and two doors above William Clarke's Lottery office; where he offers for sale a very general assortment of

LOOKING-GLASSES,

consisting of Gilt, Mantel and Fier, Mahogany pillared, Scroll, Swing, and a variety of Toilet and Statia Glasses, which he will sell at reduced prices.

He also continues to frame and glaze, Paintings, Prints, and Ladies' Needle-work. All orders for Bed and window Cornices, repairing old gilding, re-silvering Looking-Glass Plates, &c. will meet with prompt attention.

Utica, December 6, 1825. t84

I. J. BERRY,

NEW BRICK STORE,

CORNER of Genesee, and Bleecker streets, a few rods south of the Canal, and opposite Sage & Luce's Tavern,—Has just received his fall supply of Groceries, Liquors, Wines, Fruit, Fish, &c. the which he offers on reasonable terms, either for cash or country produce. Tavern keepers can purchase here on liberal terms. The above individual having met with flattering encouragement in his last year's attempt to establish a

GENERAL SEED STORE

in Utica, intends keeping on hand a general collection of Garden and Flower Seeds; and to obviate the difficulty which he laboured under last year, of not being able to supply every call during the season, with the different varieties of seeds, he has made arrangements with the first seed store in New York, to furnish him with a constant supply.

Utica, Nov. 24, 1825. 74tf

Removal.

ALEXANDER SEYMOUR, has REMOVED to 104, Genesee-street, where he offers at WHOLESALE or RETAIL, for *Cash*, or approved paper, payable at either of the Banks in this village,

NEW GOODS,

and *OLD GOODS AT NEW PRICES*. Merchants, and others are requested to examine his Goods, as he is determined to sell at the lowest prices. Utica, 15th Nov. 1825. 6w72

Clinton Female Seminary.

TERMS.—For English Grammar, Arithmetic, Geography, with the use of the Globes, History, Astronomy, Composition, Penmanship, Stenography, Map Drawing, Needlework, together with particular attention to reading and Orthography, $5 per Quarter.

The same, with Rhetoric, Logic, Chemistry with Experiments, the Rudiments of Natural Philosophy with a few Illustrations, Moral Philosophy, Natural Theology, Evidences of Christianity, Drawing, Painting in Water Colours, and Velvet Painting, 6 do.

The same with the French Language, 8 do.

A course of Lectures on Botany, by a gentleman of science to commence the middle of June, and continue about ten weeks, 2 50 do.

Board and Lodging, 12 shillings per week. Washing 2 shillings per dozen.

The buildings are spacious, pleasant and convenient; the situation is healthful and agreeable.

The winter term commences on Thursday the 24th of November.

3w72 N. ROYCE, *Principal.*

Clinton, Oneida Co. Nov. 15, 1825.

N. B. The Pupils will furnish their own candles, candle sticks, snuffers, and towels.

Camden Academy.

PARENTS AND GUARDIANS, who are anxious for the literary and moral improvement of children and youth, are hereby informed that a School of this kind is now open in our Academy, under the immediate care of Miss F. A. SOUTHWORTH. Miss S. has been employed in this Institution the Summer past, and has applied her talents as an instructress, to the entire approbation of those who have attended her Public Examinations, and witnessed the proficiency of her scholars. Her qualifications are well known, and need not our commendation. The regularity of her system produces the most perfect order; and her conciliating disposition secures the affectionate regard of every pupil.

The next Term will commence on Thursday, the 15th of November. The branches of instruction will embrace all those that are usually taught in Schools of this kind.

Terms, from two to three dollars per quarter—Board from 8 to 10 shillings per week.

DAVID ELY,
Secretary of the Board of Trustees.

November, 2, 1825 4wp7K

POETRY & MUSIC.

"KINDLED ONLY AT THE SKIES."

ADDRESS TO THE FIRST SLAVE SHIP.

First of that train which curs'd the wave,
And from the rifled cabin bore,
Inheritor of wo,—*the slave*
To bless his palm tree's shade no more.

Dire engine!—o'er the troubled main
Borne on in unresisted state,
Know'st thou within thy dark domain
The secrets of thy prison'd freight?

Hear'st thou their moans whom hope hath fled?
Wild cries, in agonizing starts?
now'st thou thy humid sails are spread
With ceasless sighs from broken hearts?

The fetter'd chieftain's burning tear,
The parted lover's mute despair,
The childless mother's pang severe,
The orphan's misery are there.

Ah!—could'st thou from the scroll of fate
The annal read of future years,
Stripes—tortures—unrelenting hate,
And death-gasps drown'd in slavery's tears.

Down—down—beneath the cleaving main
Thou fain wouldst plunge where monsters lie,
Rather than ope the gates of pain
For time, and for eternity.

Oh Afric!—what has been thy crime?
That thus like Eden's fratricide,
A mark is set upon thy clime,
And every brother shuns thy side—

Yet are thy wrongs thou long distress'd!
Thy burdens by the world unweigh'd
Safe in that *Unforgetful breast*
Where all the sins of earth are laid.

Poor outcast slave!—our guilty land
Should tremble while she drinks thy tears,
Or sees in vengeful silence stand,
The beacon of thy shortened years;

Should shrink to hear her sons proclaim
The sacred truth that heaven is just,
Shrink even at her Judge's name,
"Jehovah,—Saviour of the opprest."

The Sun upon thy forehead frown'd,
But man more cruel far than he,
Dark fetters on thy spirit bound:—
Look to the mansions of the free!

Look to the realm where chains unbind,
Where the pale tyrant drops his rod,
And where the patient sufferers find
A friend,—A father, in their God. H.

Hartford Nov. 1825. [*Con. Mir.*

New Anthems.—The last Savannah Georgian mentions in high terms of commendation, the performance of several new anthems, at a late ordination, which were composed by a gentleman of Savannah. The anthems are, "Lift up your heads," "How Boautiful," and "Lift up your voice like a trumpet." The subjects, at least, are *well chosen;* and so far as a judgment may be formed from a well written and intelligent communication in the Georgian, we should infer that the music was excellent. We know of but one distinguished musician in Savannah; and though we have not seen the pieces alluded to, we presume that they were from the pen of Mr. L. Mason, Editor of the Boston Handel and Haydn Society Collection of Church Music.

Teachers.—The demand for able teachers of psalmody, is daily increasing in this district of country. There is no want of those who are *partially* qualified, and who may *eventually* distinguish themselves: but in answer to the numerous letters we have lately received on this subject, we would beg permission to state, thro' the medium of this paper, that, so far as we are acquainted, the teachers of first rate abilities are already engaged for the winter; and that where a young class is to be brought forward, recourse might advantageously be had to instructers who have had less practice and experience.

Mr. Carter, an able teacher from Sharon, Con. we learn, has opened a school in Canandaigua. Mr. Ingersoll, from Lee, Mass. has opened schools in the towns of Romulus and Ovid. We have not learned whether deacon Rollo, of Locke, has *consented* to engage in teaching for the season; nor do we know where Mr. Edson, or Mr. Buel have located themselves. Mr. D. Clark, has recently left this place for Rochester, where he will find an important field of usefulness; and if we mistake not, he has a brother somewhere in the country, whose talents are not inferior to his own. In one or two instances, we have heard of instruction being given by clergymen. This is a good example, and we should like to see it oftener imitated.

ACCOUNT OF THE ORGAN,

In the Cathedral Church of Harlaem, in Holland; reckoned the first in the world.

It contains 8000 pipes, some of which are thirty feet long and sixteen inches in diameter, and has sixty-four stops, four separations, two shakes, two couplings, and twelve bellows. The notes of this wonderful instrument can swell from the softest to the sublimest sounds, from the warbling of a distant bird, to the awful tone of thunder, until the massy building trembles in all the aisles. It has a stop called *Vox Humana*, which most admirably imitates the human voice.—*Handel* passing through Harlaem, could not of course resist the sight of the far famed Organ; he procured the keys, &c. and amused himself for some time; at length he got into one of his rhapsodies, and rolled along the deep thundering notes till the very steeple shook.

NIGHT-SINGING OF CHRISTIAN NAMAQUAS.

Mr. Shew in the following passage describes a beautiful scene in the south of Africa.

I was prevented from sleeping the greater part of last night, by the singing of a company of Namaquas. Not being able to sleep I rose about midnight; and going to a rock by the side of a hill, I sat unobserved by mortal eye, and was both pleased & profited by the solemn devotion of those around. Instead of the Tomton and Pot-dance, the nocturnal amusements of the old Namequas, the whole place was enlivened with songs of praise to Him who died for the world. The party of singers went from house to house. It was pleasing to see the nightly fires brighten up as they approached; the ascending flame seemed to bid them welcome and the readiness with which they were joined in their devotions fully confirmed it. Several of the females sung what may be termed extemporary seconds; and though totally unacquainted with music and science, yet the combination of sounds produced harmony. What I witnessed on this occasion, appeared as a sufficient reward for all the toil of past years. *Let every thing that hath breath praise the Lord.*

COMMUNICATIONS.

To the Editor of the Western Recorder.

Mr. Hastings,—How would you like to have the following number of Questions sent you weekly for publication in your paper? If you approve of it, you can publish these. I did not write them for this object, but for my Bible class; and I think some improvements might be made. Perhaps, if Bible classes were formed, these questions might aid the circulation of your paper, as the members might wish to prepare their answers. I am at a loss to determine whether or not it is best to publish them. I submit it entirely to you. I think I can weekly furnish about the same number.

Yours, &c. N.

QUESTIONS FOR A BIBLE CLASS.

MATTHEW, CHAPTER XIII.

When did the events here related, occur?
Where did our Lord principally reside?
Where did he at first teach? [See Mark, iv. 1.
In what posture did he teach?
Why did he leave the shore?
Where did he go?
In what manner did he often instruct?
What is a *parable?*
Ans. Any comparison in discourse.
What was the *design* of the parable of the sower?
A. To state the *reasons* why many rejected his religion—the obstacles to the spread of the gospel. These were *inattention—fear of persecution—preconceived opinions—and depraved desires.*
Relate the parable.
What was the inquiry of the disciples? [Matt. 10 Mark 10.
What was our Lord's reply?
What *peculiar favour* was granted them?
What is meant by the mysteries of the kingdom of heaven?
What is the meaning of the proverb, v. 12.
How is this applicable to the disciples & Jews?
Why does our Lord say he spoke in parables?
What is the meaning of this verse?
What prophecy does he quote as applicable?
Why did they not understand?
What is meant by "lest at any time?"
A. So that not.
What was the design of this quotation?
A. To teach that they were sluggish and negligent in hearing.
What does Christ affirm in regard to his disciples?
A. Desirous of learning—attentive hearers; and diligent observers.
What peculiar privileges did they enjoy?
Did Christ comply with their wishes?
Who is compared to seed "by the way side?"
What is meant by "the word of the kingdom?"
What, by not understanding it?
Does Satan have any thing to do with such men?
Who resembles the "stony ground?"
Who, seed among thorns?
Who, seed on the fertile ground?
Is there any diversity among christians, in respect of religious attainment?

MISCELLANEOUS.

MRS. ERSKINE.

The following singular occurrence in the life of this lady, who was the mother of a celebrated divine of the same name, is going the rounds of the newspapers, as if it had something of a miraculous nature attached to it. The day of miracles is past; but the story may nevertheless be true. At any rate it has evidently furnished the catastrophe of one of Hogg's celebrated poems. Mary Lee's disinterment at the close of the "Pilgrims of the sun," is certainly very similar to Mrs. E.'s.

About the time of the persecution in Scotland, Mrs. Erskine was taken suddenly ill, and to all human appearence died. On her finger was a ring, which her relatives attempted to take off; but being so much swollen it was found impracticable. Accordingly she was buried with it on. The sexton being informed of the circumstance, went at night to the grave—dug up the coffin—broke it open—and began to cut the finger on which the ring was placed. The blood flowed out; when she exclaimed "*Oh, it is painful;*" upon which the sexton was alarmed and fled with precipitation She immediately arose went home, and knocked at the door. Mr. Erskine says, "who is there?" she answers, "open the door;" when he replies, "if my wife had not been buried, I should believe I hear her voice." The door was opened, she entered the house to his great joy and astonishment.

After this remarkable occurrence Mrs. Erskine lived several years, and bore Ebenezer Erskine a celebrated Scotch divine, author of a volume of sermons.

Mrs. Erskine, on account of the persecution was obliged to flee to Bass, a small island near Sterling, where the above personage was born. She called his name Ebenezer, in token of her deliverance; which signifies—*hitherto hath the Lord helped me.* Well may it be said how wonderful and mysterious are the ways of Divine Providence.

CHRISTIAN CONDUCT TOWARDS SERVANTS.

The importance of Christian conduct in the professed disciples of Christ, can scarcely be estimated too highly. To "let our light shine before men," has a powerful efficacy in recommending religion to the notice and estimation of the world; while to fail in this duty, produces the most deleterious effects. The success of the gospel in every age, has been connected in no small degree, with the conduct of its professors; and the neglect of a holy and amiable life, has always been, in a great measure, the cause of its unsuccessfulness and decay. I have been led to these remarks by the following circumstance.

While on a visit some time since to a professedly religious friend, I had occasion to notice, with much grief, a want of Christian-like conduct, towards his domestics. Instead of a becoming kindness of manner and of language, there was a tone of harshness and tyranny, in every thing he said to them. They were treated more like vassals than fellow Christians. Peremptory and authoritative, vituperative and commanding, peevish, and displeased at almost every thing they did, he seemed as if no person's comfort and convenience were to be consulted, but his own. The effect of this conduct was very visible in the countenances of the servants. Sometimes they appeared mortified; at other times indignant; at no time in a pleasing mood. In the evening we had prayers. The servants came in, and I noticed particularly, their physiognomy, and I thought I could trace sentiments of this kind in their countenances—"You read a good book and pray well, but you do not behave to us accordingly. You read and speak of, and pray for brotherly love and sympathy and kindness; but you do not shew much of them in your conduct. We cannot receive any good from your prayers and instructions, for you give the lie to all we hear at this service." I suspected something of this kind was passing through their minds; certainly, at least it passed through mine, and I could not but reflect on the indescribable injury done to their minds by this maifest inconsistency. If they had no religion, what a barrier must such conduct have raised against it! What unfavourable ideas of it, must they have formed!

This is no doubt, a glaring case: but there are others less glaring, which yet are very reprehensible. The situation of masters and mistresses, it must be allowed, is frequently very difficult. Provocations from servants are often many and great: their neglect, idleness or disobedience, is not a little vexatious; and to exemplify daily, and on all occasions, and under all these and similar circumstances, the true spirit and character of a Christian towards them requires no common vigilance. But what should be constantly had in view, is the spiritual and eternal good of those connected with us. In proportion as this is regarded, will our conduct be Christian-like, and beneficial to them, and eventually to ourselves. The question to be asked under every circumstance, is, what will promote the good of their souls? and whatever militates against this, does not become us as Christians. A mere regard to what the world considers right and wrong, in dealing with them in cases of impropriety and bad conduct, is not sufficient, and will often fail to produce any beneficial effect. Many things must be quietly borne with and passed by, in servants as well as in other people. I am not pleading for undue indulgence towards them; but I think, in general, they do not share our sympathy so much as they ought; and we do not treat them with that kindness and love which we should expect from them, were we to change places.—Perhaps in no particular, are respectable persons professing religion, more defective, than in the general tone of their behavior towards their servants. They follow the conduct of the world, too much in this respect. This subject deserves the attention of your readers; for apart from other considerations, without good, kind and judicious masters and mistresses, there will never be affectionate, faithful, an useful servants.

An Aged Minister.—The venerable and reverend Joseph Dana, D. D. of Ipswich, on the 6th inst. delivered a discourse on the 60th anniversary of his Ordination, from 2 Peter i. 12, 13, 14, 15. He is believed to be the only Minister in Massachusetts who has sustained that office for so long a term. Dr. D. is now 83 years of age, having been ordained November 7, 1765, at the age of 23. He has survived, it is said, every acting member of his church or congregation at his ordination, except one.

"*Astronomy.*—Great Weight of the Solar Inhabitants.—As the diameter of the sun (883,000 miles) is 111 times greater than that of the earth, a body at its surface would fall through 450 feet in a second of time so that if there be any human inhabitants residing there, each individual of moderate size must weigh at least two tons."

D. D.—Rev. S. H. Cox, an eminent Presbyterian clergyman in the city of New-York, on whom the degree of Doctor of Divicity was confered by Williams College announces in the last New-York Observer, that he shall not accept of the appendage of D. D. to his name and assigns many reasons for his rejection.

SIR WILLIAM JONES ON THE SLAVE TRADE.

"I pass with haste by the coast of Africa, whence my mind turns with indignation at the abominable traffic in the human species from which a part of our countrymen dare to derive their most inauspicious wealth. Sugar it has been said, would be dear if it were not worked by the blacks in the western islands, as if the most laborious, the most dangerous works were not carried on in every country, but chiefly in England by free men. But let sugar be as dear as it may, it is better to eat none, to eat honey, if sweetness only be palatable, better to eat aloes or coloquintida, than violate a primary law of nature, impressed on every heart not imbruted by avarice, than rob another of those eternal rights, which no laws upon earth can justly take from him."

The year of Jubilee.—As the next year will be the *fiftieth year* of American Independence, it has been proposed that the next Anniversary shall be observed as a Jubilee. The following is a part of the instructions of Moses for the Jubilee of the Israelites. "And ye shall hallow the *fiftieth year*, and *proclaim liberty* throughout the land to *all the inhabitants thereof.*" May we not hope the year 1826 will be emphatically a year of benevolent exertion for the redemption of the slaves of the United States; and that so much at least will be done, as to "proclaim" a public resolution, that a second "fiftieth year," shall not find a single *slave* in the land?—*Friend of Peace.*

Danger of burning Charcoal in lodging rooms.—Two young men from Long Branch N. J. named Williams and Lane, were found dead yesterday morning, in the cabin of the sloop Gen. Jackson, of Shrewsbury, lying in Coenties slip: they had Coal burning in a cooking furnace; the cabin being tight, the deleterious air came out in such quantities as to cause their death. Their bodies were found lying together near the stairs—Mr. Lane has left a family.

A laconic Letter.—The following letter was received the other day by Gen. Bernard, of the Engineer Corps, then in Baltimore, from the gentleman who acted as Gen. La Fayette's Secretary, during his visit to the United States: it is as agreeable as it is laconic.

My Dear General—
15 days navigation,
Lat. 47,
Long. 28,
Health good,
Rough weather since our departure.
Our friendship to your family—For the Americans, and for Liberty—unalterable.
Yours, LEVASSEUR.
Brandywine, 25th Sept. 1825.

THE WESTERN LAKES.

We extract the following account of the great Western Lakes from an essay published in the New-York Statesman:

1. The Ontario, is 180 miles long, 40 miles wide, 500 feet deep, and its surface is computed at 213 feet above the elevation of tide water at Three Rivers, 270 miles below Cape Vincent.

2. Erie, is 270 miles long, 60 miles wide, 200 feet deep, and its surface is ascertained to be 565 feet above the tide water at Albany.

3. Huron, is 250 miles long, 100 miles average breadth, 900 feet deep, and its surface is near 595 feet above the tide water.

4. Michigan, is 400 miles long, 50 wide, depth unknown; elevation the same as Huron.

5. Green Bay, is about 105 miles long, 20 miles wide, depth unknown; elevation, the same as Huron and Michigan.

6. Lake Superior, is 450 miles long, 109 miles average width, 900 feet deep, and its surface 1048 feet above the tide water.

Hence, it is easy to calculate that the bottom of Lake Erie is not as low as the foot of Niagara Falls; but the bottom of each of the other lakes, it will be observed, is lower than the surface of the ocean.

Lake Superior is the head fountain, the grand reservoir of the mighty volume that fills the rivers, expands the lakes, and roars over the cataracts of Niagara, St. Lawrence, &c. After making a semi-circle of five degrees to the south, accommodating and enriching one of the most fertile and interesting sections of the globe, it meets the tide at a distance of 2000 miles from its source, and 5000 from the extreme point of its estuary on the Atlantic coast.

THE TROY REVIEW,

OR, RELIGIOUS AND MUSICAL REPOSITORY.

It is proposed to publish, in the city of Troy, a semi-monthly paper, under the above title, devoted to Religious subjects and Christian Psalmody. The Troy Review will be published under the superintendence of Truman Hastings, Esq. The Religious department will embrace *original* and *selected* pieces. The former will be furnished by clergymen, who have pledged their contributions to this work; and the latter will be made from the most approved periodical publications of the day. A general summary of religious intelligence will appear in each paper, but a large proportion of the pieces will be on subjects of a permanent character.

It will be the design of the proprietors to make the Musical department subservient to the interests of Church Music. To develope the principles of the musical art—to make a just application of the acknowledged rules of criticism to the business of vocal execution, and to elevate and improve the musical taste of the Christian community, will be the objects aimed at in this department. Communications calculated to promote these objects, will be addressed to the uninstructed, as well as to those more advanced in the art, by avoiding, as far as is practicable, or explaining, the technical language employed by its professors. In conducting this department of the work, the proprietors intend to avail themselves of the proffered assistence of several gentlemen of acknowledged attainments in the science of music, and experience in its practical details, among whom they are happy in being able to name *Mr. Thomas Hastings*, the Editor of the *Western Recorder*. The selections for this department will be made only from works of acknowledged merit, and designed for utility rather than amusement. Of the great need of such a paper, it is unnecessary to speak and as it can scarcely interfere with the interests of any other publication, the proprietors hope it will receive, and intend it shall deserve, the patronage of the public.

The work will also embrace a summary of important political events, and a literary record.

TERMS.

I. The Troy Review will be published semi-monthly, on Wednesday of each alternate week, at two dollars per annum, payable in advance, or at the end of six months from the time of issuing the first number.

II. It will be issued in the Quarto form, and printed with a fair type, on paper of the medium size and of superior quality, making an annual volume of more than 200 hundred pages.

III. Those persons who will become responsible for eight copies, shall be presented with a gratuitous copy.

IV. The publication of the work will commence on the first Wednesday of January next, provided a sufficient number of subscribers shall be obtained to warrant its commencement. All communications, (post paid,) may be addressed to Truman Hastings, Esq. Agents are requested to make returns by the last Wednesday in December next.

Troy, November 22, 1825.

☞ To distant subscribers the work will be forwarded by mail, if no other mode is directed.

UTICA ACADEMY.

A TEACHER of Mathematics is employed in this Institution, who devotes his whole time to teaching in the different branches of Mathematical science. Particular attention will be given to young gentlemen who wish to qualify themselves for *Canal Surveyors* and Engineers, or for Land Surveyors.

By order of the Board of Trustees.
D. PRENTICE, *Principal.*
November 28, 1825. 74tf

WANTED.—The subscriber wishes to employ immediately Six first rate

Journeymen Coopers.

Liberal wages will be given.
G. W. GORTON.
Rome, August 23, 1825. 1tfplw

TO RICHARD VAN DYCK, and to such of his children as were living, on the 2d day of November, 1825.

In pursuance of the last will and testament of Marinus Oudenaarde, deceased, I hereby give you notice, that you, and each of you, be & appear in your proper persons, at Utica, within six months from the date hereof, to claim the estate, consisting of a house and lot, situated on Water-street, in Utica; and which has been devised to you, by said last will and testament of said Marinus Oudenaarde, deceased, upon that express condition; or in default of such appearance, within said time, all and singular, your and such of your right and interests as devisees, will be forever forfeited; and said estate will be sold for the benefit of the American Bible Society, in pursuance of the directions of said will. Yours,

THOMAS E. CLARK, *Executor.*
Dated, 22d Nov. 1825. 6mo.73

NOTICE

TO MANUFACTURERS OF SCYTHES.

THE subscribers have now on hand, in addition to their usual assortment of IRON & STEEL,

40 Tons, new and old Sable Russia Iron.
5 — German Steel (best quality.)

or sale at the New York prices; with the addi dition of transportation only.

H. & S. STAFFORD.
Utica, 20th Jan. 1825.

Steam Navigation Company.

THE new Steam-boat Commerce, captain Seymour, with the Safety barge Lady Clinton, and the new steam boat Swiftsure, captain Stocking, with the Safety-barge Lady Van Rensselaer, will, until further notice be arranged as follows:

Leave New York.		Leave Albany.	
Monday,	at 10 A. M.	Monday	at 10 A. M.
Tuesday,	4 P. M.	Tuesday,	3 P. M.
Thursday,	10 A. M.	Thursday,	10 A. M.
Friday,	4 P. M.	Friday,	3 P. M.
Saturday,	4 P. M.	Saturday,	3 P. M.

For Passage, at New York, apply on board, at the Cedar street wharf, in the rear of the City Hotel, or to W. C. Redfield, 137 Washington street; And at Albany, on board, in front of the Pier Bridge, foot of State-street, or to Rathbone & Chapin, 67 Quay-street.
New-York, Aug. 15, 1825. 61tf

WHITESBORO' ACADEMY.

THE Trustees would inform the public, that this Seminary is now open for the reception of Students under the tuition of Mr. C. Crittenden Baldwin, who graduated at Hamilton College in 1823; and who comes with recomendations of high standing, as a gentleman of fair character and distinguished classical attainments.

L. BERRY, *Clerk of Trustees.*
Whitesboro', May 2, 1825. 44tf

Piano Forte & Violincello

FOR SALE.

THE subscriber has for sale a remarkably fine toned PIANO FORTE, made by Clementi & Co. of London, on an entire new principle, having the Harmonic Swell and Bridge of Reverberation.

Also;—A VIOLINCELLO, made by the noted Sebastian Kloz.—Price $100.

I. J. BERRY,
Corner of Genesee and Bleecker stree ts, a few rods south of the canal, and opposite Sage Luce's &Tavern. 51tf

WINES & TEAS.

2 CASKS superior Port Wine,
1 " old Madeira, do
1 " Sicily do
1 case Champaign, do
20 boxes Claret, do

Hyson, Young Hyson, Hyson Skin and Black TEA, DRUGS & MEDICINE, Dye Woods, and Dye Stuff, together with a general supply of GROCERIES.

52tf A. HITCHCOCK.
Utica, June 28. 83 Genesee-street.

NEW GOODS.

No, 36, Genesee-Street.

THE Subscriber is now receiving a general assortment of Dry Goods, suitable for the season; also, 50 crates Crockery & Glass Ware, with a few chests Tea, and a few barrels Brown Sugar, Molasses, &c. &c. which he offers for sale on reasonable terms at wholesale or retail. A small share of the public patronage will be thankfully received. OREN CLARK.
Utica, 13th Sept. 1825. 63

JOHN CAMP & Co. No. 98, Genesee street, Wholesale and Retail Dealers in India, European, and American Dry Goods, Liquors and Groceries.

Cash and the highest prices, paid for Pot and Pearl Ashes.
May 24, 1825. 2tf

M. HITCHCOCK, has constantly on hand, a large assortment of *Drugs and Medicine, Dye Woods and Dye Stuff, Paints and Oil, Liquors and Groceries:* Wholesale and Retail.
Feb. 3d, 1824. 3—tf.

TERMS OF THE WESTERN RECORDER.

I. The Western Recorder will be issued on Tuesday of each week, commencing with the first Tuesday in January, 1825.

II. It will be put to subscribers at Two Dollars and fifty Cents if paid in advance; or Three Dollars if paid at the end of the year.

III. Persons becoming responsible for more than six copies and less than ten, will be allowed a discount of fifteen per cent. for ten copies or more, a discount of twenty per cent. Individuals forming themselves into companies of ten will thus reduce the price in advance to Two Dollars.

IV. No subscription will be received for a less term than one year.

☞ The postage must be paid on all communications addressed to the Editor or Publishers.

MERRELL & HASTINGS, *Publishers*